

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
YASUO FUKUDA ) : Examiner: C. Larose  
Application No.: 09/977,318 ) : Group Art Unit: 2623  
Filed: October 16, 2001 ) :  
For: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD, )  
APPARATUS THEREFOR AND :  
STORING MEDIUM ) September 20, 2006

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR INITIALED FORM PTO-1449

Sir:

Applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and a Notice of Allowability in the subject application, for which the issue fee is due December 6, 2006.

A review of the file indicates that the Examiner has not yet returned an initialed Form PTO-1449 to Applicant for the Information Disclosure Statement dated January 4, 2005. Therefore, Applicant requests that the Examiner return an initialed Form PTO-1449 for the foregoing IDS indicating that the art cited therein has been considered and made formally of record in the application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

/Edward Kmett/

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